GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5242
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2000
FACILITIES TO RAILWAY PORTERS
P.C. THOMAS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government are aware of the plight of railway porters, such as lack of welfare schemes, welfare funds, insurance, pension, job security, medical and travel facilities;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether railway porters are permitted to avail of the facility of rest rooms in certain stations;

(d) if so, whether Government would like to extend such facility to other stations also; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (e) : The Government have taken a number of welfare measures for the licensed porters. They are entitled for outdoor medical facility in railway hospitals. They are also granted facility of railway passes and PTOs at periodical intervals and their children are permitted to be admitted to railway schools subject to availability of seats. The licensed porters have been provided with rest rooms at various important stations where their number is substantial. The need for providing facility at additional stations is assessed from time to time and such facilities are provided at stations wherever they are found justified. As licensed porters are not railway employees, they cannot be granted pension and job security. However, their badges can be transferred to their near relatives as per rules in case the licensed porter becomes old, infirm or in the event of his demise.